Dear Students,

On behalf of Chicano Latino Student Affairs (CLSA), I want to extend a warm welcome to the first-year students, who are starting their academic career at the Claremont Colleges. We are very excited to have you in our community and look forward to a long and productive relationship. It is invigorating and exciting to have the CLSA Sponsor Team on campus for orientation and new student events. Their energy and exuberance is commensurate with their commitment to the success of first-year students. We are delighted to have returning students back on campus and hope to connect with you to discuss your goals and objectives for the year.

It is my pleasure to introduce Tony Jimenez, the new Assistant Dean of Students at CLSA. Tony completed his undergraduate degree in Sociology at UC Santa Cruz. He earned his Masters of Education in Administration, Planning and Social Policy from Harvard University, and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in Educational Policy Studies. Tony’s dissertation focused on access and equity issues in higher education for Chicano Latino students post-affirmative action era. Tony Jimenez comes to CLSA from UC Merced, where he served as the Project Director for the National Science Foundation California Alliance for Minority Participation (NSF CAMP), and the University of California Leadership Excellence through Advanced Degrees (UC LEADS). He is passionate about student affairs and retaining Latino students in the educational pipeline. He is experienced with both STEM and Social Science programs, at the graduate and undergraduate level. He has extensive knowledge of summer research programs and opportunities to help students get the experience that will enhance their admission to the top tier graduate and professional schools. We welcome Tony Jimenez to CLSA, and encourage you to come meet him.

I invite you to join us for the CLSA Open House scheduled for Friday, September 13th, from 3-5 p.m. The mood will be festive, the staff will be receptive and the food to die for.

Bienvenidos.

Maria Torres
Dean of Students

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**Latino Heritage Month Celebration**

CLSA has a variety of programs planned in honor of Latino Heritage Month beginning with the annual Open House on September 13th through the end of October. The schedule includes a lunch presentation on Racial Microaggressions by Danny Solorzano, UCLA Professor, and a dinner presentation on the topic of immigration with Eileen Truax, International Journalist of 18 years and Author; a career-building session with Susan Carter Director of Research Development for the University of California and, of course, a sprinkling of cultural events. Join us!
Introducing the 2013-2014 CLSA Sponsor Team

The Sponsor Team is a crucial component of CLSA programs. This group of twenty-nine awesome returning students volunteer to serve as mentors and advocates to our entering freshman class. They warmly welcome and greet each and every one of our 200+ new Latino students. They answer questions, address concerns (often from parents as well as first-year students), plan outings, make introductions, all to ensure the Class of 2017 has a smooth transition to college. Sponsors continue their leadership role at the New Student Retreat leading these friendships at the New Student Retreat.

This year’s team includes: Jessica Barreno, April Carlson, Karissa Muñoz, Isabel Skilton, Rebekah Vermillion, Camilo Vilaseca at CMC; Christian Guerrero, Joana Perdomo and Jonathan Perez at HMC; Paloma Aleman, Priscilla Cobian, Jose Cortez, Sarah Garcia-Dehbozorgi and Amanda Leon, Daniel Noriega and Yoni Rubin at Pitzer; Kayla Rodriguez, Javier Garcia, Angeles Contreras, Jackie Fernandez, Stephano Padilla, Ahtziri Fonseca, Vicente Robles and Sergio Rodriguez at Pomona; Elisa Gomez, Tiffany Goncalves, Bea Maldonado, Alfonso Rodriguez and Nike Roman at Scripps College.

Muchas Gracias!

From the Assistant Dean

Dear Students,

I am honored and privileged to be the new Assistant Dean at CLSA. Its been little over a month that I arrived at the Claremont Colleges and I am excited in being able to serve as a resource to all of you. In the past few weeks I had the opportunity to meet some of you and I am excited in working with the undergraduate and graduate student populations. I am here to support your success!

As Maria, stated in her welcome message, I am passionate in assisting students in taking to the next level as it relates to their graduate and professional school aspirations. As the son of immigrants and a first generation college graduate, I am acutely aware on how the educational pipeline can make a paramount difference in the upward mobility of members in our comunidad. As someone who has been able to successfully navigate it in my undergraduate, masters, and doctoral programs, I want to serve as a resource to the students of the Claremont Colleges. As such, it is my mission to make sure that all of you have the tools that will ensure success in your educational and career pathways.

Please stop by my office, I am excited in meeting the Chicano Latino community of the Claremont Colleges.

Sincerely,

Tony Jimenez
Assistant Dean of Students

Page 2
A Summer Nano-Experience

Charlie Yates, a Pitzer College junior double majoring in Science, Technology & Society and Psychology, spent his summer doing a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in Atlanta, Georgia. His program was in conjunction with the National Nanotechnology Infrastructure Network (NNIN), which is an initiative made by the NSF (National Science Foundation) to promote the sharing of knowledge and resources among different institutions. The program had students from around the country work in state-of-the-art university facilities to do substantial independent projects. This 10-week paid internship offers airfare, housing, and an extremely large stipend for food and your time on the program. This REU especially encourages students from under represented minorities in higher education and those who are from smaller institutions that are not research-based (like the Claremont Colleges) to apply.

The REU program for the NNIN offered Charlie so much more than what it says online. In his own words, “the internship experience gave me not only the research opportunity to be published, but it also gave me dependable contacts and resources, especially as I pursue graduate studies.” He then went on to say, “The biggest reward of this program was the preparation it gave me for my future, from the understanding of how the NSF works to the newfound belief in myself and my ability to pursue a competitive PhD program.”

While the program is focused on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) studies, Charlie found himself doing a research project that fit his interests. As a social scientist, he led a project researching the network communications and knowledge transfers in the NNIN. He conducted surveys and interviews while gaining the experience of performing a detailed laboratory ethnography. The interdisciplinary nature of his project gave Charlie newfound knowledge in strategic business management, nanotechnology, and anthropology.

Charlie said that one of the best components of the program was meeting the people in the NNIN, especially the other students. The fellow interns were just as interested and excited about doing research but also having fun. On top of working for more than 40 hours a week, the group of interns that Charlie was a part of was able to go to Six Flags, baseball games, the aquarium, concerts, and behind-the-scenes tours of a pharmaceutical company and Coca-Cola.

“I encourage you to apply to this program and similar REU programs, no matter what you think their chances are. I was set up financially for the summer and had an experience that has without a doubt prepared me for my future,” Charlie finished. At the end of the program, Charlie presented his research to 100+ fellow interns and STEM professionals at a 3-day conference and is currently working to publish his work.

For more information on this program, please visit http://www.nnin.org/research-experience-undergraduates. The application deadline will most likely be around mid-January to mid-February, as most REU programs’ deadlines are during that time period as well. There will also be a 5C panel discussion on REU programs on October 29th at 7:00 (location TBD). Finally, be on the look out for more research talks that CLSA will be offering in the near future! Susan Carter, Director of Research Development for the University of California (UC), will provide valuable information on September 16th on how to make yourself a competitive candidate for the National Science Foundation Fellowship. These tips would help you with other applications.

Share Your Summer Experience

What did you do this summer? Did you participate in a summer research program? Did you intern with a major company? Would you like to encourage or discourage others to apply to the same program? If so, CLSA invites you to submit a write-up that includes a description of the program and its goals, along with highlights of your personal experience. Be specific as to why you want others should apply. Include application deadline. Email your write-up to clsa@cuc.claremont.edu. You will be featured in a future issue of CHISPAS. Do not forget to include a photograph.

Charlie Yates interning at a Nanotechnology Facility in Georgia
Fellowships

The National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship is one of the most sought after awards in Graduate Education. NSF recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees. The NSF welcomes applications from all qualified students and strongly encourages under-represented populations, including women, under-represented racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities, to apply for this fellowship. An NSF fellowship can mean three years of support with an annual stipend of $32,000. The deadlines are the first week in November but vary depending on your discipline. Online application is available at http://www.nsfgrfp.org/. Please note, CLSA is hosting Susan Carter who will provide Claremont students with tips on how to make yourself a more competitive candidate for this coveted award. Reserve your spot for the September 16th presentation at tjimenez@cuc.claremont.edu. Seating is limited.

The Urban Teacher Center (UTC) is now accepting applications of their 2014 cohort. They are seeking strong applicants with a passion for public service and leadership and a commitment to student success. If selected, you would become part of a team of teachers working in urban areas that need exceptional teachers such as Baltimore, MD, and Washington, DC. Upon completion of the program you will earn a dual masters degree. Learn more at www.urbanteachercenter.org.

Internships

Are you interested in working at the Pomona College Admissions Office? This internship can help you gain work experience, behind-the-scenes knowledge of admissions, and build your resume. We are looking for students who are well organized, responsible, and have strong communication skills. A full year’s commitment is required and students are expected to work at least one Saturday during the fall semester and participate in tour guide and overnight host training. Applications for the following position are being accepted: MSAP Intern (1 position) - The MSAP intern plays an integral part in the recruitment of students of color, low-income and first-generation college student at Pomona. The position requires 6-10 hours per week; hours are flexible. Freshmen applicants preferred. Admissions Communications Intern (1 position) - The Intern responds to all e-mail questions sent to the office, and will gain intimate knowledge of Admissions processes and protocol. The position requires 6-10 hours per week; hours are flexible. Alumni Admissions Volunteer (AAV) Program Intern (1 position) - The intern supports the Alumni Admissions Volunteer Program, contacting alumni across the country and around the world to interview prospective students, attend college fairs, and congratulate admitted students by phone or post-offer parties. The application deadline for all internships is 5:00 pm on Thursday, September 12th. The application is available at https://pomona.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_O1UZR83K5yD0kq9.

Open House

Harvard Divinity School (HDS) is hosting its seventh annual Diversity and Explorations Program (DivEx) to be held November 5-7, 2013. DivEx is intended to interest students who are underrepresented in the graduate study of religion, with a particular focus on African American, Latino/a, Asian American, and Native American students. We welcome applications from undergraduates whose backgrounds demonstrate a commitment to issues of diversity, social justice, and the fields of religion, theology and ministry. Selected participants will be provided with transportation to Harvard Divinity School as well as room and board for the duration of the program. The program offers an opportunity to explore graduate theological education in a variety of ways, including class visits, panel discussions, and formal presentations by faculty, alumni, staff and students. The application deadline is September 16, 2013. For more information, www.hds.harvard.edu/admissions-aid/diversity-at-hds/diversity-and-explorations-program.

Scholarships

The National Hispanic Health Foundation, will award 20 scholarships to graduate students seeking a dental, medical, nursing, public health, pharmacy and policy students who exhibit exceptional academic performance, leadership, and commitment to the Hispanic community. Eleven recipients will receive $5,000 for two years funded through United Health Foundation and nine will receive $2,000 for 1 year. The scholarships will be presented to awardees at the Sixth Annual California Scholarship Gala in Los Angeles on Thursday, November 21, 2013 or the Tenth Annual New York Scholarship Gala in New York City on Thursday, December 5, 2013. The application deadline is October 4th. For application and additional information, www.nhmafoundation.org.
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